

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /086 W
----- 095114

R 220725Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3531

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0127

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, EG

SUBJECT: SADAT'S EMISSARY TO SOMALIA

REF: ADDIS ABABA 0700

1. WHILE EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK DID NOT RPT NOT VISIT SOMALIA FOLLOWING ADDIS TALKS (REFTEL), EGYPTIAN MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS MUHAMMAD RIYAD DID AND SPENT THREE FRUSTRATING DAYS HERE JANUARY 15 - 18. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR SAYS THAT RIYAD, WHO CARRIED MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SADAT, FINALLY MET WITH PRESIDENT SIAD FOR TWO AND HALF HOURS ON JANUARY 17.

2. AT THEIR MEETING RIYAD SPENT THIRTY MINUTES REVIEWING FOR SIAD ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SADAT'S TRIP TO US AND FRANCE, AS WELL AS BACKGROUND OF SINAI ACCORDS AS SEEN FROM CAIRO TO POLITE BUT UNENTHUSIASTIC SIAD. IN RETURN, RIYAD LISTENED TO TWO HOURS OF SIAD'S USUAL DISCOURSE ON SOMALI PROGRESS UNDER SOCIALISM, ETC.

3. ONLY MENTION OF DJIBOUTI PROBLEM BY MINSTATE RIYAD WAS
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TO TELL SIAD THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAD SPOKEN PERSONALLY TO

GISCARD D'ESTAING ABOUT TFAI QTE IN INTERESTS OF SOMALI PEOPLE UNQTE AND THAT PROBLEM MUST BE PEACEABLY RESOLVED. ACCORDING EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR GAMIL, RIYAD HAS PHRASED COMMENT ON TFAI IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID LEAVING IMPRESSION THAT CAIRO SUPPORTED IN ANY WAY SIAD'S AMBITIONS FOR DJIBOUTI. ETHIOPIA NOT RPT NOT MENTIONED IN THEIR BILATERAL EXCHANGES.

4. SIAD BEHAVIOR WITH RIYAD WAS POLITE BUT CIRCUMSPECT. ONLY QUESTION HE RAISED ABOUT SADAT'S VISIT TO US AND SINAI ACCORDS WAS TO ASK FOR US POSITION ON GENEVA CONFERENCE. SIAD'S RELATIVE SILENCE WAS THUS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO HIS TREATMENT OF AMBASSADOR GAMIL ON DECEMBER 5, WHEN EGYPTIAN MET WITH SIAD TO DELIVER SADAT MESSAGE ON MIDDLE EAST, A MESSAGE HE HAD BEEN HOLDING SINCE OCTOBER AND WHICH HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO DELIVER BECAUSE SIAD WOULD NOT RPT NOT SEE HIM. WHEN AMBASSADOR GAMIL TALKED WITH SIAD ON DECEMBER 5, SIAD TOLD HIM FLATLY THAT HE DID NOT RPT NOT ACCEPT CAIRO'S JUSTIFICATION SINAI ACCORDS AND THAT US PRESENCE IN SINAI AT EARLY WARNING FACILITY WAS SIMPLY BEGINNING OF NEW PHASE OF US IMPERIALISM IN MIDDLE EAST. WHEN GAMIL ASKED SIAD WHETHER HE WOULD SIMILARLY CHARACTERIZE SOVIETS AS IMPERIALISTS, SIAD SAID NO. GAMIL THEN TOLD HIM THAT RUSSIANS WERE IN EGYPT FOR TWENTY YEARS AND THAT THEY HAD BEEN TOLD TO LEAVE WHEN NATURE OF THEIR IMPERIALISM RECOGNIZED BY EGYPTIANS; AMERICANS WOULD ALSO BE ASKED TO LEAVE IF THEIR PRESENCE DIDN'T SERVE EGYPTIAN INTERESTS.

5. AMBASSADOR GAMIL HAS BEEN SEEKING HIGH LEVEL VISIT FROM CAIRO FOR EIGHT MONTHS (I.E., SINCE FAILURE OF ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT HERE, WHICH SDR BLAMES IN PART ON CAIRO) AND MINSTATE RIYAD FINALLY SUCCUMBED TO HIS APPEALS IN MID-DECEMBER, WHEN GAMIL WAS IN CAIRO ON HOLIDAY. IN SEEKING HIGH-LEVEL VISIT, GAMIL WAS ATTEMPTING MAKE UP FOR SADAT'S AUTUMN '75 FAILURE TO SEND PERSONAL EMISSARY TO SOMALIA WITH MIDDLE EAST MESSAGE AS HE HAD DONE FOR OTHER ARAB AND AFRICAN STATES. GAMIL WAS ALSO HOPING TO BRIGHTEN UP GLOOMY STATE OF EGYPTIAN-SOMALI RELATIONS, FOR WHICH HE BLAMES SOVIET UNION.

6. RIYAD RECEPTION IN MOGADISCIO, HOWEVER, DID NOTHING MORE THAN CONFIRM CHILLY STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. RIYAD WAS NOT RPT NOT GIVEN HONORS ACCORDED VISITORS AND COOLED HIS HEELS
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FOR TWO DAYS BEFORE HE SAW SIAD HIMSELF. SDR MEDIA FAILED TO COVER RIYAD'S ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE AND ONLY DINNER GIVEN BY HOSTS WAS SMALL AFFAIR ATTENDED BY SECSTATE ARTEH AND FEW CLERKS FROM FONMIN.

7. EGYPTIANS OF COURSE BLAME SOVIETS IN LARGE PART RIYAD'S DISAPPOINTING RECEPTION IN MOGADISCIO. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR REFUSES GIVE UP IN FACE OF SOMALI HOSTILITY AND SOVIET BEHIND-

THE-SCENES MANEUVERING ALTHOUGH HE TOO HAS BECOME DISCOURAGED.
EGYPTIAN MIL ATTACHE HOWEVER HAS THROWN IN TOWEL AND RECENTLY
SENT CONFIDENTIAL LETTER TO HIS MINISTER OF WAR RECOMMENDING
THAT CAIRO CLOSE ITS ATTACHE OFFICE IN MOGADISCIO.
HAMRICK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOGADI00127
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760025-0261
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760132/aaaabbpX.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ADDIS ABABA 700
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADAT'S EMISSARY TO SOMALIA
TAGS: PFOR, SO, EG, DJIBOUTI, (SIAD BARRE, MOHAMMED), (RIYAD, MUHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006